

E5 ENCLAVE INCORPORATED

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit — Liberty City, Miami, Florida
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 · 119TH CONGRESS

The Honorable Gregory W. Meeks
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.Res. 414 — “Reparations Now” (Rep. Summer Lee, 119th Congress) — and the documented reparations ledger

Dear Representative Meeks:

Your support for reparations legislation is on the record — and it matters. The vehicle has moved with the evidence: H.Res. 414 — “Reparations Now” — names the obligation directly and puts repair, not study, on the table. We write to ask you to take the next step. The national conversation has made your position harder to ignore and easier to lead from — and we write to ask you to take the next step the evidence demands.

On September 9, 2026, the President of the United States stood before the first RNC midterm convention, in Dallas, Texas, and named our issue on a national stage: “They want to steal your money for reparations. They want to basically punish you for crimes that you never committed that happened hundreds of years ago, and our country doesn’t have that kind of money... And give it to the people that hate our country. The people that hate our country are asking for it, but it’s going nowhere.” (September 9, 2026, first RNC midterm convention, Dallas, Texas — transcribed from video of the address; no official White House transcript exists.) He said the word. We intend to keep it spoken — in this building, with the evidence beside it.

Seven years earlier, in the White House East Room, the same President looked at three hundred young Black Americans and said: “African Americans built this nation — you built this nation.” (October 4, 2019, Young Black Leadership Summit; archived White House transcript.) Both things cannot stand. The debt he now calls theft is the ledger of the building he once credited. We bring Congress the ledger.

The ledger is the economics profession’s, not ours. In 2015, peer-reviewed research priced the American slavery debt at **\$7 quadrillion**, compounding at 6%. The Review of Black Political Economy (2020) priced it at **\$6.2 quadrillion**. The ADCRC’s Taking Account (March 2026) prices it at **seven quadrillion**. Project 2033 names no settlement price. It names the ledger — three independent valuations of what this country extracted and never repaid. The harm is documented in 1,574 verified observations drawn from 17 federal sources. The record is auditable; it is not anecdotal.

While Washington debates, the country is already moving. Evanston, Illinois — the nation’s first municipal reparations program — has disbursed roughly \$7.3 million to nearly 200 Black residents and descendants, including 44 recipients this fiscal year, paid from the city’s own tax revenues — even as the program defends itself in federal court. Amherst, Massachusetts, established a \$2 million reparations fund and published a final assembly report recommending it be fully funded within four years. California created the nation’s first state-level reparations task force, and in 2025 enacted the laws that grew from its findings: a descendant-verification methodology through the CSU system and a Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery inside the state Department of Justice. Maryland’s legislature overrode the governor’s veto to create a 23-member state reparations commission. The momentum is real — local and state-anchored. It is waiting on the federal government to catch up.

So we ask, plainly. The federal government already owns the paperwork — centuries of its own records documenting the harm, including two Joint Economic Committee reports from Congress itself. The evidence phase is over; what is owed is action, not another study. We ask you to cosponsor H.Res. 414 — “Reparations Now” — Rep. Summer Lee’s 119th-Congress resolution putting the House on record that the United States has a moral and legal obligation to provide reparations, in all necessary forms including financial compensation; to stand behind its unqualified apology for state-sanctioned chattel slavery; and to act on its call for federal, state, and local reparations initiatives — now, while the local and state programs this resolution blesses are already repairing.

Take the next step with us: cosponsor H.Res. 414 — “Reparations Now”; lend your voice during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s Annual Legislative Conference; and help win the cosponsor count the resolution needs. The ledger is documented; what is owed is action, not another study.

The public has signed on: **5 signatures** and counting. Congress should lead — or answer.



Israel Lee Armstead

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THE ASK

Cosponsor H.Res. 414 — “Reparations Now” — the 119th-Congress House resolution, introduced by **Rep. Summer Lee (D-PA-12)**, putting the House on record that the United States has a **moral and legal obligation to provide reparations — in all necessary forms, including financial compensation** — for the ongoing harms of slavery and its aftermath, and calling for **federal, state, and local reparations initiatives now**.

The government already owns the paperwork — centuries of its own records documenting the harm, including two Joint Economic Committee reports from Congress itself. The evidence phase is over. What is owed is action, not another study.

What cosponsorship does

- **Clause (1):** puts the Member on record that reparations — including financial compensation — are a federal obligation, not a debating topic.
- **Clause (4):** backs an unqualified House apology for state-sanctioned chattel slavery — without the limiting clauses that gutted the 2008/2009 apologies.
- **Clause (6):** blesses and invites local, state, and federal reparations initiatives — the Evanston / California / Maryland lane that is already repairing, now.

Why now, in three lines

- The President named reparations on a national stage on September 9, 2026 — in Dallas, Texas — and the record in this packet answers him.
- The economics profession has priced the extracted debt three ways: **\$7 quadrillion** (Craemer 2015, peer-reviewed) · **\$6.2 quadrillion** (Review of Black Political Economy, 2020) · **seven quadrillion** (ADCRC Taking Account, March 2026). Project 2033 names the ledger, not a settlement price.
- Only 14 Members of the 119th Congress are on the resolution (all originals from 05/15/2025). Every new cosponsor is a news hook and a pressure point — the whip count is the scoreboard.

Contact: E5 Enclave Inc. · contact@e5enclave.com · Full packet: [project-2033 signature record](#)

This packet stands on the shoulders of the late Congressman John Conyers, who carried the federal reparations cause in Congress for nearly three decades (1989-2017) — and of every advocate who kept the record before him.

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THE 3-MINUTE BRIEF

THE ASK: Cosponsor H.Res. 414 — “Reparations Now” — Rep. Summer Lee’s 119th-Congress resolution putting the House on record that the United States has a **moral and legal obligation to provide reparations — in all necessary forms, including financial compensation** — and calling for **federal, state, and local reparations initiatives now**.

The debt, in one paragraph

This nation capitalized itself on unpaid Black labor — centuries of it — and has never repaid the balance. The federal government itself is the archivist of the harm: two Joint Economic Committee reports (June 2020, February 2022) document the economic state of Black America in Congress’s own voice. The evidence phase is over. What is owed is action, not another study.

The ledger, in three numbers

- **\$7 quadrillion** — Craemer 2015, peer-reviewed, 6% compounding.
- **\$6.2 quadrillion** — Review of Black Political Economy, 2020.
- **Seven quadrillion** — ADCRC Chicago, Taking Account, March 2026.
- Project 2033 names the ledger, not a settlement price.

Why now, in three lines

- The municipal/state movement is real: Evanston is disbursing; California, Maryland, and Amherst have moved. H.Res. 414’s call for local, state, and federal initiatives blesses the lane that is already repairing.
- The national conversation is loud: on September 9, 2026, the President named reparations on a national stage in Dallas — and the record in this packet answers him.
- This week is the CBCF Annual Legislative Conference — the caucus that wrote the resolution is in the room.

The record at a glance

- The Joint Economic Committee reports — the official economic record, in the federal government's own voice.
- The ledger — three peer-reviewed valuations of the extracted debt; the economics profession's, not ours.
- The precedents — Evanston (~\$7.3M disbursed, ~200 recipients), Amherst (\$2M fund), California (task force → legislation), Maryland (veto-override commission).
- The municipal briefs — how the repair is already happening, jurisdiction by jurisdiction.
- The Dallas/YBLS record — the President's own words, seven years apart, side by side.
- The whip file — who's on the resolution, who's not, and the pressure math.

The ask, restated with the mechanics

- **House Members:** cosponsor H.Res. 414 (introduced by Rep. Summer Lee, referred to House Judiciary 05/15/2025; no hearing, no markup).
- **Senators:** introduce a Senate companion resolution to H.Res. 414 carrying its moral-and-legal-obligation standard.
- **Judiciary members:** schedule the hearing the committee of referral has never held.
- **The whip count is the scoreboard:** only 14 Members are on the resolution (all originals from 05/15/2025); 11 are among our 62 targets — **49 CBC targets plus Beyer and Cohen (51) are not yet on it. That is the recruitment universe.**
- **Lame-duck activation note for staff:** Rep. Al Green (original cosponsor; leaves Jan 3, 2027) and Rep. Steve Cohen (retiring) carry an activation ask — a departing Member with nothing left to lose is asked to push, publicly, for Judiciary action on H.Res. 414 before January. No Republican has cosponsored either version of the resolution.
- **What happens next:** E5 Enclave Inc. is the record's custodian and the resource office — contact below.

Footer: E5 Enclave Inc. · 501(c)(3) public charity · contact@e5enclave.com · QR to the full record and the Project 2033 signature record.